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TRAVELERS AID SOCIETY
of BOSTON, Inc.

National Badge

1916—1922

Member National Association of Travelers Aid Societies

Member Boston Council of Social Agencies

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for 1923

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for 1923

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Mrs. George W. Vaillant
Mrs. Edwin S. Webster

In presenting this report of the Travelers Aid Society of Boston, the Board of Directors wish to call attention to the rapid development of the work during the six years of the existence of the Society. They especially wish to thank those whose gifts have made this expansion possible.

Acknowledgement is also due to the members of the staff for their untiring efforts under difficult conditions. The work requires a high grade of intelligence and character, and great tactfulness in approaching the persons who need the aid of the Society. Our workers have performed their arduous and yet delicate work with great skill and devotion.

JAMES ARNOLD LOWELL,
President.

The year 1922 brought no change in the character of the work to the Travelers Aid Society of Boston, either at stations or docks. The society has continued to care for the immigrant, the stranger, the elderly, the sick, the young girl, when bewildered or in difficulty, and the runaway.

During the last five years the Travelers Aid movement has experienced a rapid expansion throughout the country, until high grade service has been established in most of the larger cities. Every day more people come into contact with Travelers Aid work, and as a consequence look for the "worker with the badge" on arrival in a strange city. If she is not at the train or seated under the Travelers Aid sign at the desk, there is a breakdown in the service. And yet to maintain uninterrupted desk assistance, it requires two workers on duty at the same time in order that one worker may be free to meet trains, do scout work about the station, and occasionally accompany travelers to destinations. The Boston society regrets that at the present time it is unable to meet this fundamental demand of adequate Travelers Aid service. As soon as funds are available, the society should place two workers, instead of one, on duty at each station. Increased funds are hoped for in order to meet this compelling need.

Comment is frequently made to the effect that the turnover among social workers is unfortunately large. Particularly is this true in the Travelers Aid field, because of the difficult early morning and night hours, and the strenuous and public nature of the work. We therefore note with especial satisfaction the record of the Boston society. Out of a staff of twelve people consisting of eight station and dock workers and four office employees, two have been with us six years, two five years, one four, and one three. The others have been with us from periods of two years to three months. This is one of the most important factors in efficient service and continuity of standards.

OLIVE M. JAQUES,
General Secretary.

WHAT THE TRAVELERS AID SOCIETY OF

Traveling Assistance

1,457 placed on train.

818 placed in car or taxi.

30 assisted in finding lost articles.

466 assisted with ticket and baggage.

3,675 given train or boat information or general assistance.

866 placed on train and wired other Travelers Aid societies or representatives to meet.

646 placed on train and notified friends or relatives to meet.

2,161 notified relatives or friends who failed to meet and taken to them or held for them.

583 directed to relatives or friends who failed to meet.

236 watched for at request but failed to arrive.

227 met at train and left in care of relatives who were also at train.

8,698 local directions.

19,853 total.

SUMM

Traveling Assistance .

General Assistance .....

Total .....

BOSTON DID FOR TRAVELERS DURING 1922

General Assistance

5,537 rooms secured or recommended at:

- 1,747 Y. W. C. A., Franklin Square House, and other houses for young women.
- 2,551 hotels.
- 1,191 rooming houses.
- 48 temporary homes.

2,650 given general information, advice, and assistance.

124 directed to room registries.

155 wired relatives, friends, or employers for money.

343 loaned money for tickets.

162 special investigations.

33 directed to employment agencies or employment secured.

10 runaways watched for.

105 runaways:

- a. 17 returned to parents or guardians.
- b. 86 returned or referred to social agencies.
- c. 1 disappeared.
- d. 1 referred to police.

197 individuals (exclusive of runaways) referred to social agencies.

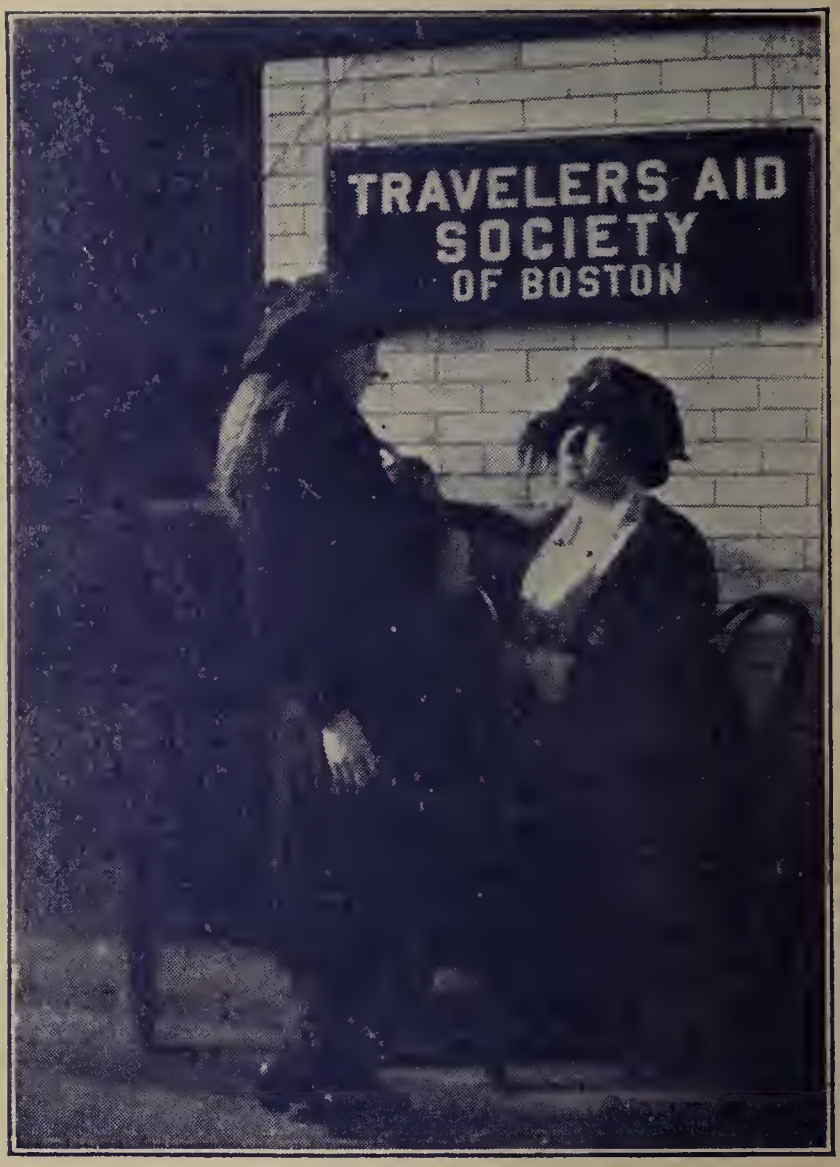
9,316

R Y

..... 19,853

..... 9,316

..... 29,169


TRAVELERS AID
SOCIETY
OF BOSTON

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Sixteen-year-old Josephine was restless and dissatisfied, and consequently left her New Hampshire home, clad in sneakers and sweater, to hike for New York. Fortunately, in Boston, she came into the care of the Travelers Aid. She explained that she had great artistic talents which were being smothered in her small home town. So, with her imagination fired by the movies, she had decided to seek her fortune before she was too old to succeed.

Long conferences followed with her widowed father, an aunt, and a specialist on child psychology. The verdict was that Josephine was suffering from adolescent restlessness and too great freedom from discipline. The perplexed father decided to give her into the care of an intelligent aunt of unusually fine character, and in her home in a near-by suburb Josephine is learning to shoulder responsibility. Her cherished artistic ability is being stimulated under a good high school art course. From a peevish, unhappy girl, Josephine is developing into a stable and useful woman.

Late one Sunday night the Travelers Aid worker noticed two young, countrified-appearing girls with a couple of sailors coming from the New York express. As they hesitated a moment she approached and found the sailors planned to find the girls a room for the night. The girls gladly went instead to a home for women with our worker, and on their way confided that they had never been in Boston before and were here by mistake. They had been advised by the sailors to take the express from Providence, where they had spent the day, to their home in Mansfield, but found too late that the train did not stop at Mansfield. Only the appearance of the Travelers Aid workers prevented their taking the further and perhaps disastrous advice of their sailor companions.

TRAVELERS AID SOCIETY OF BOSTON, INC
Statement of Receipts and Disbursements for the Year Ended December 31, 1922

Cash Balance, Januuary 1, 1922:			
Boston Safe Deposit & Trust Company:			
Treasurer's Account		$ 826.34	
Special Account		188.72	
Petty Cash		14.95	
			$ 1,030.01
Receipts:			
Subscriptions		$14,240.50	
Concerts and Bridge Parties		2,029.75	
Permanent Charity Fund		3,000.00	
Young Travelers Aid Society		500.00	
Boston Y. W. C. A.		385.00	
Interest on Bank Balances		17.21	
Rebate on New York Conference Expenses		6.05	
Petty Cash Guaranteed Refunds		64.60	
			20,243.11
Total Cash To Be Accounted For			$21,273.12
Disbursements:			
Workers' Salaries:			
South Station	$5,678.94		
North Station	4,280.09		
Dock	998.97		
General	7,483.61		
		$18,441.61	
Workers' Expenses:			
South Station	232.54		
North Station	178.17		
Dock	39.59		
General	70.72		
		521.02	
Telephone		474.46	
General and Miscellaneous Expenses		446.88	
Postage and Stationery		244.72	
Supplies		199.57	
Expense of Conference of National Association of Travelers Aid Societies		178.02	
National Conference of Social Work Expenses		118.72	
Office Equipment		68.50	
Appeal Letters		65.66	
Publicity		46.31	
			$20,805.47
Cash, on hand December 31, 1922:			
Boston Safe Deposit & Trust Company:			
Treasurer's Account		323.03	
Special Account		139.08	
Petty Cash		5.54	
			467.65
Cash Accounted For			$21,273.12

CERTIFICATE OF AUDITORS

We hereby certify that the accompanying statement of cash receipts and disbursements for the year ended December 31, 1922, in our opinion, is a true and accurate statement of the cash transactions of the Travelers Aid Society for the year.

Boston, Massachusetts.
February 13, 1923.

CHARLES F. RITTENHOUSE & COMPANY,
Certified Public Accountants.

As the Travelers Aid Society of Boston has no invested funds it is dependent upon annual contributions to do its work. There is urgent need of increased funds. Would you be willing to interest new subscribers and if you have not renewed your contribution within a year will you not communicate with

JOHN L. GRANDIN, Treasurer,
45 Milk Street, Boston, Mass.